## EXHIBIT A



Service of Process Transmittal

01/10/2013

CT Log Number 521923853

TO:

Dianne McFarlane, Paralegal Parker-Hannifin Corporation 6035 Parkland Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44124-4141

RE:

**Process Served in Texas** 

FOR:

Parker-Hannifin Corporation (Domestic State: OH)

ENCLOSED ARE COPIES OF LEGAL PROCESS RECEIVED BY THE STATUTORY AGENT OF THE ABOVE COMPANY AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE OF ACTION:

Bobby Gilbert, Pltf. vs. The Home Depot and Parker Hannifin Corporation, Dfts.

Name discrepancy noted.

DOCUMENT(9) SERVED:

Citation, Original Petition, Certification

COURT/AGENCY:

55th Judicial District Court Harris County, TX Case # 201300523

MATURE OF ACTION:

Product Liability Litigation - Manufacturing Defect - Personal Injury - January 6,

2011 - Defective acetylene/oxygen welding hose

ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED:

C T Corporation System, Dallas, TX

DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE:

By Process Server on 01/10/2013 at 15:15

JURISDICTION SERVED:

Texas

APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE:

By 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days

ATTORNEY(S) / SENDER(S):

The Hixon Law Firm 5555 West Loop South, Suite 605

Bellaire, TX 77401 713-661-2541

**ACTION ITEMS:** 

CT has retained the current log, Retain Date: 01/10/2013, Expected Purge Date:

01/15/2013

Email Notification, Dianne McFarlane dmcfarlane@parker.com Email Notification, Julie Picciano julie.picciano@parker.com

SIGNED: PER: ADDRESS: C T Corporation System Amber Carrouth 350 North St Paul Street

**Suite 2900** 

TELEPHONE:

Dallas, TX 75201 214-932-3601

Page 1 of 1 / LG

Information displayed on this transmittal is for CT Corporation's record keeping purposes only and is provided to the recipient for quick reference. This information does not constitute a legal opinion as to the nature of action, the amount of damages, the answer date, or any information contained in the documents themselves. Recipient is responsible for interpreting said documents and for taking appropriate action. Signatures on certified mail receipts confirm receipt of package only, not contents.

	RECEIPT NUMBER <u>452403                                    </u>
CAUSE NUMBER	
PLAINTIFF; GILBERT, BOBBY	In The 55th
V9. DEFENDANT: HOME DEPOT (THE)	Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas
CITATION	CORPORATE
THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Harris	
TO: PARKER HANNIFIN CORPORATION (CORPORATION AGENT OF THE CORPORATION C T CORPORATION	
350 NORTH SAINT PAUL STREET SUITE 2900	DALLAS TX 75201
Attached is a copy of PLAINTIPF'S ORIGINAL PR	TITION
This instrument was filed on the 4th day of 1s above cited cause number and court. The instrument attached	
YOU HAVE BEEN SUED; you may employ an attorn District Clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be	ey. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were taken against you.
TO OFFICER SERVING:	
This Citation was issued under my hand and seal of sea	aid Court, at Houston, Texas, this day of
Issued at request of; HIXON, ERIC CHARLES 5555 WEST LOOP SOUTH, SUITE 6055 HOUSTON, TX 77401 Tel: (713) 661-2541 Bar Number: 9730500	CHRIS DANIEL, District Clerk Harris County, Texas 201 Caroline, Houston, Texas 77002 P.O. Box 4651, Houston, Texas 77210  Generated by: CUERO, NELSON 7MM/7MM/94680
•	rized person return
	, 20, ato'clockM., endorsed
the date of delivery thereon, and executed it at	(street address) (city)
in County, Texas on the day of	, 20, ato'clock M.,
by delivering to	, by delivering to its
(the defendant corporation name	
(registered agent, president, or vice-president)	pame is,
a true copy of this citation, with a copy of the	Petition attached, (description of petition, e.g., "Plaintiffs Original"
	discription of petition, e.g., "Plaintiffs Original"
and with accompanying copies of	dditional documents, if any, delivered with the petition)
I certify that the facts stated in this return are true by my sig	gnature below on the day of, 20
FEE: \$	(signature of officer)
	ed Name:
As E	(printed name & title of sheriff or constable)
	, known to me to be the person whose signature
appears on the foregoing return, personally appeared. After executed by him/her in the exact manner recited on the return	t being by me duly swom, he/she stated that this citation was
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, on this_	day of, 20

Notary Public

Page 1 of 5
1
: 54346253 - Pr
Number
Document
Certified

2013, Q0523 / Court: 055

Filed 13 January 4 P3:10 Chris Daniel - District Clerk Harris County ED101J017254518 By: Nelson Cuero

BOBBY GILBERT	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
Plaintiff,	§	
•	§	
<b>V.</b>	§	JUDICIAL DISTRICT
	§	,
THE HOME DEPOT AND PARKER	§	
HANNIFIN CORPORATION		•
Defendants.	§	OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

## PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

## TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

NOW COMES Bobby Gilbert, hereinafter called Plaintiff, complaining of and about The Home Depot and Parker Hannifin Corporation, hereinafter called Defendants, and for cause of action shows unto the Court the following:

## DISCOVERY CONTROL PLAN LEVEL

1. Plaintiff intends that discovery be conducted under Discovery Level 3.

#### PARTIES AND SERVICE

- 2. Plaintiff, Bobby Gilbert, is an Individual whose address is 9321 Clinton Drive, Houston, Texas 77029.
  - 3. The last three numbers of Bobby Gilbert's social security number are 965.
- Defendant The Home Depot, a Corporation based in Texas, is organized under the laws of the State of Texas, and service of process on the Defendant may be effected pursuant to sections 5.201 and 5.255 of the Texas Business Organizations Code, by serving the registered agent of the corporation, Corporation Service Company, at 211 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 620 Austin, TX 77801, its registered office. Service of said Defendant as described above can be effected by personal delivery.

5. Defendant Parker Hannifin Corporation, a Corporation based in Texas, is organized under the laws of the State of Texas, and service of process on the Defendant may be effected pursuant to sections 5.201 and 5.255 of the Texas Business Organizations Code, by serving the registered agent of the corporation, CT Corporation System, at 350 North Saint Paul Street, Suite 2900 Dallas, TX 75201, its registered office. Service of said Defendant as described above can be effected by personal delivery.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 6. The subject matter in controversy is within the jurisdictional limits of this court.
- 7. This court has jurisdiction over the parties because Defendants are Texas residents.
- 8. Venue in Harris County is proper in this cause under Section 15.002(a)(1) of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code because all or a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in this county.

## **FACTS**

- 9. On January 6, 2011, Plaintiff purchased an acetylene/oxygen welding hose, manufactured by Parker Hannifin Corporation, from The Home Depot. Plaintiff took the welding hose to his place of business to use on his acetylene/oxygen welding tank. As Plaintiff connected the welding hose to the welding tank, the hose exploded near Plaintiff's face, causing an injury to his eye and an immediate loss of hearing.
- 10. There were no warnings sufficient to apprise Plaintiff that the welding hose, purchased from Defendant, would cause the kind of injury and damage suffered by Plaintiff.
- 11. Plaintiff was initially seen and treated at the DCH Northport Medical Center Emergency Department ("DCH") for his injuries. Subsequent to his treatment at DCH, Plaintiff has received medical treatment and have incurred medical expenses from several additional medical

facilities, including the Bayshore Medical Center, The Radiology Clinic, Eye Excellence, and Andres H. Keichian, MD PA.

## BOBBY GILBERT'S CLAIM FOR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY

- 12. The Defendants sold the welding hose to Plaintiff;
- 13. The welding hose was unmerchantable as demonstrated by its explosion upon proper use by Plaintiff;
- 14. Plaintiff notified Defendants of the breach; and
- 15. Plaintiff suffered injury.

# BOBBY GILBERT'S CLAIM FOR IMPLIED WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE

- 16. Defendants sold the welding hose to Plaintiff;
- 17. Defendants had knowledge Plaintiff was
  - A. buying the welding hose for the particular purpose of using it while connected to a welding tank, and
  - B. relying on the Defendants' skill or judgment to select goods fit for that purpose
- 18. Defendant delivered goods that were unfit for the Plaintiff's particular purpose;
- 19. Plaintiff notified Defendant of the breach; and
- 20. Plaintiff suffered injury.

## BOBBY GILBERT'S CLAIM FOR STRICT LIABILITY

- 21. The welding hose purchased from the Defendant was defective as demonstrated by its explosion upon proper use by Plaintiff;
- 22. The welding hose reached the Plaintiff without substantial changes in its condition from the time it was originally sold by Defendant;

- 23. The defect rendered the welding hose unreasonably dangerous; and
- 24. The unreasonably dangerous defect caused an injury to the Plaintiff.

## DAMAGES FOR PLAINTIFF, BOBBY GILBERT

- 25. As a direct and proximate result of the occurrence made the basis of this lawsuit, Plaintiff, Bobby Gilbert, was caused to suffer a decrease in vision and decrease in hearing as a direct consequence of the defective product manufactured or sold by defendants, and to incur the following damages:
  - A. Reasonable medical care and expenses in the past. These expenses were incurred by Plaintiff, Bobby Gilbert for the necessary care and treatment of the injuries resulting from the accident complained of herein and such charges are reasonable and were usual and customary charges for such services in Harris County, Texas;
  - B. Reasonable and necessary medical care and expenses which will in all reasonable probability be incurred in the future;
  - C. Physical pain and suffering in the past;
  - D. Loss of Hearing;
  - E. Loss of Eyesight; and
  - F. Mental anguish in the past.

#### PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff, Bobby Gilbert, respectfully prays that the Defendants be cited to appear and answer herein, and that upon a final hearing of the cause, judgment be entered for the Plaintiff against Defendants, jointly and severally, for damages in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of the Court; together with pre-judgment interest (from the date of injury through the date of judgment) at the maximum rate allowed by law; post-judgment interest at the legal rate, costs of court; and such other and further relief to which the Plaintiff may be

entitled at law or in equity.

Respectfully submitted,

The Hixon Law Firm

Eric C. Hixon

Texas Bar No. 09730500

5555 West Loop South, Suite 605 Bellaire, TX 77401 Tel. (713) 661-2541 Fax. (713) 661-2583

Attorney for Plaintiff

Bobby Gilbert



I, Chris Daniel, District Clerk of Harris County, Texas certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original record filed and or recorded in my office, electronically or hard copy, as it appears on this date.

Witness my official hand and seal of office this January 4, 2013

Certified Document Number:

54346253 Total Pages: 5

Chris Daniel, DISTRICT CLERK

HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

In accordance with Texas Government Code 406.013 electronically transmitted authenticated documents are valid. If there is a question regarding the validity of this document and or seal please e-mail support@hcdistrictclerk.com

HCDistrictclerk.com

GILBERT, BOBBY vs. HOME DEPOT (THE)

1/29/2013

Cause: 201300523

CDI: 7

Court: 055

#### **APPEALS**

No Appeals found.

## **COST STATMENTS**

No Cost Statments found.

### **TRANSFERS**

No Transfers found.

#### POST TRIAL WRITS

No Post Trial Writs found.

#### **ABSTRACTS**

No Abstracts found.

#### **SETTINGS**

No Settings found.

#### **NOTICES**

No Notices found.

#### **SUMMARY**

CASE DETAIL	S	COURT	DETAILS

S  $055^{th}$ File Date 1/4/2013 Court

Case (Cause) Location Civil Intake 1st Floor 201 CAROLINE (Floor: 9) Address

HOUSTON, TX 77002 Case (Cause) Status Active - Civil

Phone:7133686055

PERSONAL INJ (NON-AUTO) Case (Cause) Type JudgeName Jeff Shadwick

**Next/Last Setting Date** N/A

Court Type Civil

N/A Jury Fee Paid Date

SERVING THE REGISTERED AGENT OF THE

## **ACTIVE PARTIES**

Name Type Post Attorney

Jdgm

PLAINTIFF - CIVIL HIXON, ERIC GILBERT, BOBBY

**CHARLES** 

HOME DEPOT (THE) **DEFENDANT - CIVIL** 

**DEFENDANT - CIVIL** 

PARKER HANNIFIN CORPORATION HOME DEPOT (THE) (CORPORATION) BY REGISTERED AGENT

REGISTERED AGENT PARKER HANNIFIN CORPORATION

(CORPORATION) BY SERVING THE REGISTERED

## **INACTIVE PARTIES**

No inactive parties found.

## JUDGMENT/EVENTS

Date	Description	Order	Post Pg	s Volum	e Filing	Person
	-	Signed	Jdgm	/Page	Attorney	Filing
1/4/2013	ORIGINAL PETITION		0		HIXON, ERIC CHARLES	GILBERT, BOBBY

## **SERVICES**

Type	Status	Instrument	Person	Requested	Issued Served Returned Received	l Tracking	Deliver To
CITATION CORPORATE	3	ORIGINAL PETITION	HOME DEPOT (THE) (CORPORATION) BY SERVING THE REGISTERED AGENT OF THE	1/4/2013	1/7/2013	72860763	CIV AGCY- CIVILIAN SERVICE AGENCY
211 E	AST 7TH S	STREET SUITE	620 AUSTIN TX	78701			
211 EAST 7TH STREET SUITE 620 AUSTIN TX 78701							
CITATION CORPORATE	3	ORIGINAL PETITION	PARKER HANNIFIN CORPORATION (CORPORATION) BY SERVING THE REGISTERED	1/4/2013	1/7/2013	72860764	CIV AGCY- CIVILIAN SERVICE AGENCY

350 NORTH SAINT PAUL STREET SUITE 2900 DALLAS TX 75201 350 NORTH SAINT PAUL STREET SUITE 2900 DALLAS TX 75201

## **DOCUMENTS**

Number	Document	Post Jdgm	Date	Pgs
54365994	Civil Bureau Process Pick-Up Form		01/07/2013	l
54346253	Plaintiffs Original Petition		01/04/2013	5
> 54346255	Civil Case Information Sheet		01/04/2013	1
> 54346254	Civil Process Request		01/04/2013	2